

# PATROL NEWS

November/December 2019

"Over 85 YEARS OF SERVICE & PROTECTION"



*Cover story on page 3.*

# From the Staff ...

**Major Lance M. MacLaughlin**  
**Executive Services Bureau**



On September 24, 2019, the Missouri Recycling Association held their annual awards ceremony at the Sheraton-Westport Hotel in St. Louis, MO. The nine awards presented recognized governmental and industrial entities that champion and excel in recovery, recycling, and reduction of waste-related to reusable items, as well as rethinking business practices to enhance a cleaner environment.

Procurement Officer II Chris L. Terry, Q/BPD, accepted one of these awards. In the nomination it was noted that, "The Missouri State Highway Patrol has made outstanding contributions in the areas of waste reduction and recycling, which has benefited not only the state government, but outside agencies as well. The Patrol offers a vast array of services within several wide-spread locations. Warehouse and procurement staff are key to promoting a waste reduction culture within the branches of the Patrol itself. Staff in the warehouse spearhead recycling efforts with leaders from various divisions, striving to maximize productivity while minimizing the time and effort required to keep recycling systems working."

In speaking of the award, Mr. Terry stated, "This is not a Chris award, it's a Patrol award." This statement not only epitomizes who Mr. Terry is as a person and leader, but speaks to the "team" that makes it all possible. The Patrol recycling efforts would not be possible without the hard work of Building & Grounds Maintenance Supervisor W. Curt Malzner, Q/FFD, and his team. They, along with the entire Supply Section, play an integral role in assuring the success of the program. (See photo page 9.) This success includes, in part, recycling over 11,000 pounds of batteries; 3,700 gallons of antifreeze, motor oil, and cooking oil; and 1.2 million pounds of electronic, metal, paper, and cardboard scrap in 2018.

This program is but one example of the incredible work the entire Patrol team does daily. The professionalism, resourcefulness, and commitment exhibited are in keeping with the Patrol core values, and are consistent throughout our agency. Whether recycling, testing young drivers, helping maintain a vehicle fleet, examining lab samples, or arresting an intoxicated driver, our employees are consummate professionals who take their responsibilities seriously. On any given day, actions similar to those recognized by this award are being performed by each of you—individually and as members of a team. All of our actions serve a purpose and good greater than our own.

I thank you for all you do each day to further the mission of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. The successes we enjoy as an agency are the direct result of and belong to each of you.

*Lance M. MacLaughlin*

The official publication of the  
Missouri State Highway Patrol

*Celebrating Over 50 Years Of News*

## PATROL NEWS

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Erin Center  
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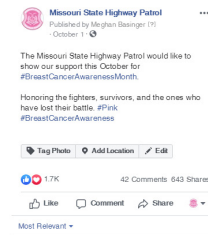
# PATROL NEWS

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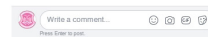
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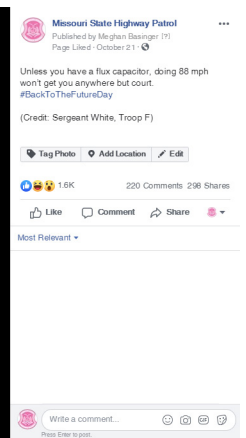
## Social Media Snapshot



*The MSHP turned pink on social media during October in support of breast cancer awareness month. The post reached 82,580 and received 4,870 reactions/comments/shares.*



*Sgt. Scott White, Troop F, referenced the "Back to the Future" movies with this Tweet, telling folks, "Unless you have a flux capacitor, doing 88 mph won't get you anywhere but court." As of late October 2019, the post had reached 73,568 and received 3,250 reactions/comments/shares.*



## Cover

*Trooper Riley Johnson, Troop B, was on patrol when he saw a young man alone in the public hunting area's parking lot, and stopped to check on him. The 14-year-old killed his first buck with a bow, but needed help dragging it out of the woods. Tpr. Johnson helped him move the deer using another hunter's cart. The three talked about hunting together in the future, then the other hunter gave the boy and his deer a ride home. The citizen posted in the Missouri Deer Hunters Facebook group, after seeing the trooper stop to assist, describing it as, "the coolest thing I have seen in a long time."*

# 'How Much Is A Lot To You?'

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb, Q/PIED

Corporal Tim Barrett, Troop D, had just started his tour of duty on March 10, 2019, a cool, overcast Sunday morning. He noticed a minivan traveling in the left lane of Interstate 44 passing a tractor trailer at 64 mph in a 60-mph zone. When the driver noticed Cpl. Barrett's patrol car, he slowed down and moved back into the right lane. The minivan turned out to be the first car stop of the day, just east of Springfield, MO.

"When I went up to talk with him using a passenger side approach," said Cpl. Barrett, "he only rolled down the window about three inches. That was a little strange, and I asked him to roll the window down further."

When the driver complied, Cpl. Barrett noticed the smell of marijuana. He saw there was no luggage, but the back seats were laid down and loaded with cardboard boxes. "I asked him to come back to my car to speak about why I stopped him and to write a warning or take appropriate enforcement action. As I began talking to him about stopping him, the driver said, 'I've always heard to go a little over the speed limit, because it doesn't look as bad or suspicious.'"

The man was from Michigan and said he was a "house flipper" who had driven to Texas to flip a house. Cpl. Barrett noted that he'd been in Texas for only four days. When he asked about the odor of marijuana in the vehicle, the driver said there were "vape pen things" in the back, but no marijuana. Cpl. Barrett confirmed the boxes held THC vape cartridges and the driver said, "Yeah."

"When I asked, 'Are there a lot of them?' he answered, 'Probably. Yeah.' I followed up with, 'How many is a lot to you?' and the driver answered, 'A couple thousand.'"

Cpl. Barrett then requested Sergeant Gary L. Braden, Troop D, to as-



Boxes of vaping cartridges filled the back of this minivan stopped on Interstate 44.

sist at his location for a probable cause search. After Sgt. Braden joined him, they opened the vehicle's hatch and inspected a couple of boxes. Each box was stacked full of THC-infused vape cartridges ... 11,744 cartridges total. The driver told the troopers the cartridges were THC cartridges, and each one was marked as such.

As a result, the cargo was seized, and the driver was arrested and taken to Troop D Headquarters for further interviews. The case was then transferred to the Green County Prosecuting Attorney.

**Editor's note:** There has been increased interest in and much coverage of vaping and the vaping industry in the national news of late. The MSHP does not have a specific THC vaping campaign. Troopers encounter THC oil cartridges during criminal patrol efforts. The MSHP has seen an increase in THC oil over the past few years. Anecdotally speaking, the THC oil is higher in THC concentration and appears to be easier to transport. In the first nine months of this year, troopers seized 45,200 THC oil cartridges in 10 different incidents. (There may have been additional, smaller seizures.) The majority of the cases occurred along Interstate 70 and Interstate 44.

## You're Invited

The Missouri State Highway Patrol Annual Awards Ceremony and The MASTERS Banquet will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2020, at the Holiday Inn - Executive Center, 2200 I-70 Drive SW, Columbia, Missouri. The awards banquet is open to all The MASTERS members, MSHP employees, and their guest/spouse. In the past, the fee has been \$40 per person and we anticipate the same for this year. The banquet usually starts with a social hour at 5:30 p.m. with dinner immediately following, and then the presentation of awards. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Redel at (573) 526-6159 or [mary.redel@mshp.dps.mo.gov](mailto:mary.redel@mshp.dps.mo.gov).

# Five Commercial Vehicle Officers Commissioned

*By Senior Chief Jeff R. Sims, Q/CVED*

On Friday, July 12, 2019, five commercial vehicle officers were commissioned during the graduation ceremony for the 8th Commercial Vehicle Officer Class. The ceremony took place in the Waggoner Building's second floor conference room.

The inspectors arrived at the Academy on June 3, 2019, for six weeks of training. Training included firearms, defensive tactics, de-escalation techniques, vehicle stops, policy and procedures, and the North American Standard Inspection Part A and Part B courses.

At the graduation ceremony, Captain Kevin C. Kelley, Q/CVED, served as emcee and welcomed everyone. He expressed his appreciation for the sacrifices the officers and their families made for them to attend the training. Lieutenant Colonel Malik A. Henderson, Q/ASO, and Major Michael A. Turner, Q/SSB, addressed those in attendance and spoke to the importance of commercial vehicle enforcement to both the Patrol and the public. Lt. Col. Henderson presented each officer with their certificates and congratulated them.

13th Circuit Associate Circuit Judge Carol England administered the Oath of Office.

Congratulations to the 8th CVO Class!



*CVO I Travis Morris, Troop F, signs his Oath of Office while Judge Carol England serves as witness.*



*Pictured are members of the 8th Commercial Vehicle Officer Class: (l to r) CVO I Chris Close, Troop E; CVO I James Ash, Troop E; CVO I Jeremy Gardner, Troop C; CVO I Travis Morris, Troop F; CVO I Christopher Wylie, with Major Mike Turner, Q/SSB; Capt. Kevin Kelley, Q/CVED; and Lt. Col. Malik Henderson, Q/SSB; Troop E.*

## Troopers Keep Watch Over Boat Race



*Sgt. Dave Echternacht, Q/TND, patrols during the 2019 Shootout Boat Race on August 24, 2019. This event brings thousands of spectators from throughout the country to the Lake of the Ozarks each year.*



*Troopers patrolling the "no anchor zone" prevent boaters from anchoring too close to the Shootout Boat Race course. Seventeen members of the Patrol served on the detail for the two-day event.*

# CAP Participants Learn How The Pieces Fit

*By Tpr. Ralicia A. Tyler, Troop I*

On September 3, 2019, 10 individuals from different walks of life embarked on a five-week adventure. The Troop I Community Alliance Program formed, and over five weeks, participants partook in different aspects of the Highway Patrol.

The first week was about history of the Patrol and displays of different divisions within the Patrol. There was a K-9 demonstration, and participants were introduced to SWAT gear, including the Bearcat. They were shown the different boats the Patrol operates on Troop I waterways, as well as shown the equipment used for swift water rescue.

The second week, aircraft and communications functions were introduced. During the session, participants were given the chance to shoot multiple firearms as well as experience scenarios using a MILO simulator. One of the participants terrified to shoot. After she shot the AR-15, she was very grateful for the experience and stated she would never forget it.

The third week, the CAP participants learned about traffic stops.



*The Community Alliance Program participants enjoyed speaking with Patrol Pilot Sgt. Dan Wohnnouthka, Q/AD. Sgt. Mike Mitchell, Troop I, is also pictured.*

In one traffic stop scenario, the participants walked up to a vehicle with weapons and paraphernalia displayed in open view. They were given 90 seconds and were instructed to write down everything they observed. The participants were amazed by how much they missed in the vehicle. Later, they participated in a mock traffic stop, which ranged from stopping an individual for speed to a drunk driver and even stopping a sovereign citizen.

After learning about traffic stops, members were given a crash course on active threats and building searches. The members used weapons, which simulated a Glock,

*Continued on the next page.*



*The MILO simulator helped show participants the importance of training in making split-second decisions.*

*The Troop I 2019 Community Alliance Program attendees pose with Tpr. Ralicia Tyler and Sgt. Mike Mitchell, both Troop I.*

## — CAP

*Continued from page 6.*

and searched a building to locate the shooter.

The participants rode with a trooper during the fourth week. During the ride along, participants observed troopers responding to a domestic situation, arresting subjects with warrants, and effecting several traffic stops.

The fifth and final week was graduation. Dinner was provided by Randy's Roadkill BBQ, and each participant was given a commemorative plaque. There was also a presentation by The MASTERS, and everyone shared about their ride-along experience.

One of the participants brought his nine-year-old son, Maddox, who plans to be a trooper when he grows up. He discussed his future career with every trooper attending and asked well thought out questions. I definitely see a future trooper in Maddox!

"The ride along was great, but so was everything else," said CAP participant Robert Lilly. "I enjoyed the helicopter and conversing with the pilot."

"I enjoyed learning about all the pieces of the Highway Patrol and getting to see how you train is amazing," said Wendy Squires, who also took part in the Community Alliance Program.

Every participant stated they loved the experience and wished they had more time. The MILO system was the favorite activity and really opened everyone's eyes as to how quickly a situation can change for the worse. It was also mentioned how amazed the participants were with communication of the troopers on the radio and how all the pieces fit together when responding to a call.

# Looking Back ... in the Patrol News

**November 1969** — The front cover honored Trooper Jesse R. Jenkins, who died in the line of duty on October 14, 1969. Articles and pictures inside the issue told the story of this brave hero. Other items in the issue included Troop B providing assistance at the M&W Farm Power Show, and a picture feature about Troop B Headquarters. One story indicated 145 members reported to General Headquarters for oral examinations. The men were being considered for promotion to corporal or sergeant.

**December 1979** — The Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy, recently equipped with a color video system, began making original production video training tapes for the first time. Trooper Hank Bruns, Troop H, submitted a photo showing a split log cabin being moved by truck from Amazonia, MO, to Savannah, MO. Tpr. Bruns served as escort. The cabin, which was 22 feet wide, was being moved by the Andrew County Historical Society. It had once served as a hideout for Jesse James. Tpr. Bruns and Deputy Sheriff Gary Dryden checked the move at 18 mph by radar. Tpr. Bruns observed that even though Jesse James had been dead for many years, he was still causing work for Northwest Missouri peace officers.

**November 1989** — A feature highlighted the Automated Fingerprint Identification System, which was in its final stages of implementation. The International Association of Chiefs of Police and Parade Magazine awarded an honorable mention to Corporal Michael A. Cooper, Troop I, and 10 additional officers around the country as part of its Officer of the Year program.

**December 1999** — The front cover highlighted four historical Patrol Christmas cards. The Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) celebrated its 25th anniversary. In the Update section, Troop E reported that an earthquake occurred at 3:15 a.m. on October 21, 1999. The earthquake registered 3.9 on the Richter scale with the epicenter approximately 35 miles west of Poplar Bluff. Tremors were reported in Southern Butler, Southern Howell, Oregon, and Ripley counties in Missouri, and as far south as Jonesboro, AR. No injuries were reported.

**November/December 2009** — Members of the Patrol assisted the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department with the MLB All Star Game and related activities. One article told the story of Troop D Sgt. Mike Watson, Sgt. Jamie Musche, Tpr. Brandon Helms, Sgt. Jeff Johnson, and retired Sgt. Miles Parks participating in the Hotter-N-Hell Hundred, 100-mile bicycle ride in the Wichita Falls, TX, area. An article by Sgt. Terry Mills and Sgt. Jeff Heath, Q/DDCC, told the story of an 18-month investigation into the dogfighting world. The investigation expanded to multiple states and involved numerous law enforcement and government agencies. Over 500 pit bull dogs were seized/rescued.

# Neosho Honors Troopers' Ultimate Sacrifice

*By Tpr. Sam D. Carpenter, Troop D*

Five troopers who have made the ultimate sacrifice were honored on September 7, 2019, in Neosho MO. The Neosho Exchange Club held the ceremony at the newly erected Neosho Patriots Memorial Wall, located at the intersection of Missouri highways 59 and 60. The wall honors fallen members of the U.S. armed forces, first responders, and K9 officers who have given their life in the line of duty. In attendance at the ceremony were various city and county officials, local police chiefs and sheriffs, and members of the public.

Several troopers from Southwest Missouri, along with Troop D staff members, attended and paid their respects to the five troopers whose names were added to the wall. Sgt. Todd A. Zacher, Troop D, applied the names of Trooper Charles P. Corbin, Trooper Russell W. Harper, and Trooper Victor O. Dosing to the wall. Jennifer Sampietro-Zacher was in attendance and applied the name of her late husband, Corporal John A. "Jay" Sampietro. Trooper J. Michael Linegar, Troop C, placed the name of his father, Trooper Jimmie E. Linegar, on the wall. Lt. Jeff B. Johnson, Troop D, read the story of each trooper as his

respective name was applied and those in attendance rendered a salute after each name was placed.

After all the name plates had been placed, troopers unfurled the American flag and saluted as it was raised into position. The amount of respect shown by the citizens of Neosho and the Exchange Club, and their building such an impressive memorial, is overwhelming. It is a beautiful reminder that the freedom we enjoy every day comes at a high cost. If you find yourself in the Neosho area, take a moment and visit the Patriots Memorial Wall.



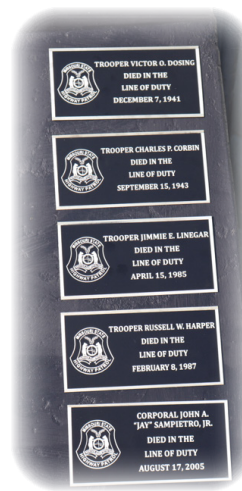
*Tpr. Michael Linegar, Troop C, affixed his father's name (Tpr. Jimmie E. Linegar) to the Patriots Memorial.*



*Mrs. Jennifer Sampietro-Zacher added her late husband's name (Cpl. Jay Sampietro) to the memorial.*



*Troopers saluted as each fallen brother's name was added to the Patriots Memorial.*



*The names of these five Missouri troopers were added to the new memorial in Neosho, MO, to honor their sacrifice.*

# Troop A Retains Braggin' Rights

**By Sgt. Andy J. Bell, Troop A**

On Sunday, September 8, 2019, troopers and their families came from around the state to Odessa, MO, for fellowship and to play in the annual Patrol softball tournament. Troops A, C, F, and the Gaming Division participated. It was a pleasant day for some fun. Words of encouragement were exchanged amongst teams along with some spirited sarcastic and distinctly meaningful elements of speech. The outcome of the tournament incited bragging rights for one team ... for the third year in a row!

The spirited tournament was originally scheduled to be played at the Concordia, MO, Sports Complex. However, due to accumulating rainfall the night before, the fields at the Sports Complex were saturated and too wet for the games. Thankfully, Troop A Sergeant Adam V. Dillon's relationship within his community led the tournament being hosted in Odessa. The Odessa High School Athletics Program agreed to



*Pictured are the tournament champions from Troop A: standing l to r: Capt. Scott Shippers, Sgt. Casey Utterback, Sgt. Barry Kumpf, Tpr. Zach Thomas, and Tpr. Ben Owens; kneeling l to r: Cpl. Josh Owens, Tpr. Emilio Villanueva, Cpl. Matt Yoder, Sgt. Adam Dillon, and Cpl. Nick Perez.*

allow the teams to play on the Odessa High School's turf baseball field.

The structure of the tournament was designed as "pool play." (Each team is guaranteed two games.) After a round of pool play, the final two games were decided. Troop A was set to play Troop F to determine first and second

place. Troop C played against the Gaming Division team to decide third and fourth place. Gaming put forth their best efforts, but unfortunately lost to Troop C.

During the championship game, Troop F had Troop A on their heels early; scoring eight runs during their first "at bat." Despite a fruitful first inning, Troop F succumbed to Troop A's rally. Troop A went on to win the game 17 to 8. Thus, Troop A was crowned the tournament champions for the third year in a row!

Many thanks to those who helped organize the tournament. For those that participated and the families who supported them, thank you for traveling to Odessa, for a fun-filled day of softball and fellowship. In preparation for next year's tournament, organizers are hoping to host the event somewhere in Troop F. All troops and divisions are encouraged to participate in future tournaments.

## Patrol Employees Honored For Recycling Efforts



*Congratulations to these employees in the Budget & Procurement and Fleet & Facilities divisions! Mr. Rod Didriksen, Missouri Office of Administration's recycling coordinator, stopped by the supply building to present the Reduce Award to them on Monday, October 21, 2019. Pictured are: (l to r, front row) Prop. Inv. Cont. Kevin Klug, Q/BPD, Proc. Officer I Maggie Eichholz, Q/BPD, Mr. Rod Didriksen, Missouri OA, Proc. Officer II Chris Terry, Q/BPD, Storekeeper II Larry Fowler, Q/BPD, Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. Sprv. Curt Malzner, Q/FFD, Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. II Austin Distler, Q/FFD; (l to r, back row) Dupl. Equip. Oper. III Chad Buschjost, Q/BPD, Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. II Mark Morff, Q/FFD, Supply Mgr. II Shawn Cooksey, Q/BPD, Storekeeper I Michael Bardwell, Q/BPD, Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. I Taylor Gillispie, Q/FFD, Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. II Doug White, Q/FFD, and Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. II Shane Alexander, Q/FFD.*

# *The MASTERS'*

## *Exec. Dir. Elaine Libla Retires*

**By Ret. Col. Fred M. Mills**  
**Exec. Advisor, The MASTERS**

Change ... It's one of those words that can make you cringe, celebrate, or bring mixed emotions. One of the hallmarks of The MASTERS has always been the continuity of our personnel and the integrity of the process we have in place. The mission and commitment has not changed since we began in 1979. Caring for and about the families we serve has and will be what defines The MASTERS.

The continuity of service in a large part is a result of the dedication and long tenure of our Executive Director Elaine Libla. Elaine always worked in the background helping her husband Senator Doug Libla, who is a The MASTERS charter member and became a director for Troop E in 1999. Elaine was appointed as the secretary for The MASTERS in 1988. Later, she was reclassified as the executive director. Ask any of the directors and they will say, "I don't know what we would ever do without Elaine."

This past spring, Elaine announced her retirement. It was hard to argue with her plans to spend more time with grandkids, travel, and enjoy a little relaxation, and she gave us months to prepare.

Most of those within The MASTERS—and the Patrol as well—cannot remember our organization without her calm voice and the efficient guidance Elaine provided. During the darkest times, when tragedy struck a member of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, Elaine was the heart and soul of how we assisted each of these families. There was never in any doubt that the family's well-being and how we could help was always her first priority.



*This photo was taken at the Annual Patrol Awards Ceremony and The MASTERS Banquet in April 2019. Pictured are: (l to r) retired Col. Jim Keathley, president and director (GHQ) of The MASTERS, Director Jack Pahlmann (G), Director Judy Braschler (E), Director Tom Drury (C), The MASTERS' Executive Director Elaine Libla, and Director Lynn Wallis (I).*

The MASTERS Directors are confident with the detailed process Elaine has put in place and the orientation she has provided to our new executive director: Our legacy of caring will continue to flourish. The seeds of kindness, efficiency, and caring that Elaine planted will continue to grow.

One true measure of success is to ask if you've left something better than when you found it. Without question we know Elaine is leaving The MASTERS better than when she found

it. For this, we will be forever grateful. Her gentle caring presence may not be evident in the day-to-day business of The MASTERS, but we are pleased she is a lifetime member and still part of our family.

# The MASTERS' Corner

**By Ret. Col. Fred M. Mills**  
**Exec. Advisor, The MASTERS**

Please welcome The MASTERS' Exec. Dir. Sarah Weadon!

For only the second time in its 40-year history The MASTERS is welcoming a new executive director. Elaine Libla, was the first and only person to hold this position, will retire effective December 31, 2019. Elaine has graciously and efficiently served our organization since 1988.

The opening certainly attracted the interest of several uniquely qualified applicants. While this made the selection process challenging, the committee felt blessed with the talent from which they had to select. The committee members were unanimous in their selection of Sarah Weadon from Whitewater, MO, (I bet many of you are getting out your map about now!) for the position. She began working with Elaine on November 4, as an assistant executive director, and will assume the duties of executive director on January 1, 2020.

For those who don't realize, or recall, I think it's important to remind you that The MASTERS has only one paid employee, so the training period was essential; there is certainly a lot to learn. The troop directors do help, but the responsibilities placed on the executive director are enormous. Having only one employee certainly can be challenging at times, but the directors have always believed the funds we receive should be used to provide support for those families we serve.

To provide a little background on our new executive director: Sarah Weadon has a Bachelor of Science in accounting, one year in an MBA program, and 17 years of work experience in these areas. Sarah is also a Missouri CPA license holder. We believe, with the education and work experiences Sarah possesses, we are truly fortunate to have her in this important position.

The committee, without reservation, felt Sarah possessed the education and work experience to effectively and efficiently handle the important responsibilities of The MASTERS. What was also evident throughout this process was we believe that Sarah possessed the integrity and genuine caring nature which is so very important for the position.

Our new executive director is a lifelong Missouri resident and is married to Sergeant Jeremy L. Weadon, Q/DDCC\*. Sarah and Jeremy have three children. She is active in their

church, teaches Bible studies, and feels she has a "teacher's heart." Sarah's hobbies include antiquing, running, and spending time with her family.

We are confident with the process used to select a new executive director, the orientation provided by Elaine, the talent and commitment Sarah brings to her position, and that you will be pleased with the transition.

We welcome Sarah to The MASTERS.

*\*Note: None of the committee members knew Sgt. Weadon prior to Sarah's appointment.*



*The Weadon family is pictured.*

# Get On Your Bikes & Ride!

## Patrol Provides Escort For Missouri's Vietnam Wall Run

*By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb, Q/PIED*

Motorcyclists came from all over the nation to participate in the first-ever Missouri's Vietnam Wall Run on September 21, 2019. The run was open to anyone who wanted to honor POW-MIAs and Vietnam Veterans. The Veterans in Defense of Liberty and Liberty Riders sponsored the event, which was organized by Mr. Terry Willey.

Mr. Willey reached out to Colonel Eric T. Olson, superintendent of the Patrol, during the planning of the event. He expected a large group and provided information regarding the route riders would take to reach the newly finished Missouri National Veterans Memorial Vietnam Wall\* in Perryville, MO.

In his letter, Mr. Willey explained that the mission of the ride was to honor POW-MIAs still unaccounted for and to honor America's Vietnam veterans. He hoped the ride would promote healing among veterans and their families as well as show support to military personnel around the world. He had reached out in hopes that Sergeant Shannon W. Crouch, Troop D, and Corporal Jason R. Cornett, Troop D, would be allowed to provide an escort.

As it turned out, almost 400 motorcyclists gathered at the Missouri Vietnam Memorial Wall that day! Sgt. Crouch and Cpl. Cornett accompanied those motorcyclists traveling from the west side of the state and Corporals Bobby R. Davis and Ryan W. Bahr, both Troop C, escorted those coming from the east side of the state. The entire group converged in Fredericktown, MO, and then traveled together to Perryville, MO.

*Continued on the next page.*



*The Patrol provided a motorcycle escort for the first-ever Missouri's Vietnam Wall Run on September 21, 2019.*



*Cpl. Jason Cornett and Sgt. Shannon Crouch, both Troop D, and officers from multiple departments formed a traffic and escort detail for Missouri's Vietnam Wall Run.*



*Gov. Mike Parson speaks to the veterans and their families at Missouri's Vietnam Wall in Perryville, MO.*

## — Vietnam

*Continued from page 12..*

Sgt. Crouch expressed his appreciation for being allowed to be part of this event. "It was a great honor for him to even ask us to be associated with the event," said Sgt. Crouch. "Jason and I representing the Patrol and Missouri in this well-deserved remembrance of these veterans ... They sacrificed much and forged a path for all of us years and years ago."

He said several law enforcement agencies assisted with the detail as it passed through Springfield. He expressed his thanks for the support of the Springfield Police Department, Green County Sheriff's Department, Joplin Police Department, and Missouri Department of Transportation. "I appreciate their command allowing them to assist."

Once at the wall, Governor Parson addressed the group during the memorial ceremony.

This is the first such event and plans are already underway for the next Missouri 's Vietnam Wall Run on September 19, 2020.

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## What Is Missouri's National Veterans Memorial?

Missouri's National Veterans Memorial is located 1.5 hours from St. Louis, MO, and approximately three miles off a major interstate, making it easily accessible for visitors. In 2016, Mr. Jim Eddleman, and his wife, Charlene, donated \$2.5 million and his family's 47-acre farm to create the Missouri's National Veterans Memorial to educate, remember, and heal. There is a welcome center and military museum with plans to continue developing this memorial park. The replica of the Vietnam War Memorial in D.C., is as accurate and complete as possible, even to the orientation of the wall to the sun. To learn more about this memorial, visit [www.mnvmfund.org](http://www.mnvmfund.org).

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## Troopers Prove Endurance, Ability

*By Lt. Mike A. Petlansky, Q/WPD*

On September 25, 2019, Sergeant Dave F. Echternacht, Q/TND, administered the inaugural Open Water Swim Class for 10 troopers at Lake of the Ozarks. Sgt. Echternacht identified the need for this course through input from marine troopers. The Open Water Swim Class was designed to increase marine troopers' confidence in their ability to swim and navigate open water of varying depths (30'-100' deep), without wearing a personal floatation device. (The swimmers wore a swim buoy attached to their waist as a precaution.) A patrol boat escorted the swimmers in the water. The students encountered wave action, wind, vessels in the vicinity, and debris in the water. The swimmers would tread water to rest and ensure they stayed together as a group. By the conclusion of the training, the troopers swam 1.4 miles, crossed the main channel of Lake of the Ozarks twice, crossed the Morgan/Camden county line twice, and were away from the shore for approximately an hour and a half.

Kudos to the following students for taking the initiative to build their confidence and improve their swimming abilities in a realistic environment: Sergeant Jerry G. Callahan, Q/HRD, Corporal Stacey L. Mosher, Troop F, Corporal Nick J. Borgmeyer, Troop F, Trooper Aaron A. Lindley, Troop F, Trooper Chris W. Harlan, Troop F, Trooper Christina A. Sumner, Troop F, Trooper Dan C. Highley, Troop C, Corporal Mark C. Mason, Troop D, Trooper Adam S. Rice, Troop D, and Corporal Shane K. Talburt, Troop E. The course would not have been possible without the assistance of swim instructors Sergeant John M. Sellers, Troop F, Trooper David W. Welker, Troop E, and Trooper Patrick T. Harms, Troop C.

*(l to r) Swimmers proved their strength and endurance during the Open Water Swim Class. Pictured left to right are: Cpl. Nick Borgmeyer, Troop F, Sgt. John Sellers, Troop F, Tpr. Aaron Lindley, Troop F, Trooper Patrick Harms C, Sgt. Jerry Callahan, Q/HRD, and Tpr. Christina Sumner, Troop F.*



*Brightly colored buoys attached to each swimmer's waist helped instructors track their progress.*

# Sgt. Williams Uses Experience To Promote Traffic Safety

*By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb, Q/PIED*

On Saturday, October 5, 2019, Sergeant Tycee Williams, Troop C, spoke at the AAA Walk to End Distracted Driving at Central Park in Chesterfield, MO. He shared the story of his being struck by a distracted driver while sitting in his vehicle at a crash scene on Interstate 44. He also shared with the attendees about his experience working traffic crashes caused by distracted drivers. Sgt. Williams stressed the importance of drivers putting their phones down when they drive.

"I'm not a public speaker, but I had a good time doing it," Sgt. Williams said.

Sgt. Williams also provided an interview for the Patrol's new traffic safety video, "If I Could Just Go Back ..." which was released October 24,

*Sgt. Tycee Williams, Troop C, speaks to a crowd of approximately 200 people at the AAA Walk to End Distracted Driving.*



2019. In the video, he explains that he was dispatched to the scene of a stranded motorist partially blocking the roadway. Before he arrived, another department had begun to take care of the situation.

"It was in a bad location," said Sgt. Williams. "I stopped my car before the curve prior to the scene, so oncoming

cars would be made aware of the situation. I had my foot on the brake as I watched traffic and saw that a man wasn't slowing or stopping. Seconds before he hit me, I accelerated to try to get away from him."

After recuperating for several weeks, Sgt. Williams returned to full duty.

## Jpr. Fred L. Walker Highway Dedicated

*By Exec. Dir./retired Major Kemp A. Shoun, MOSTA*

On October 9, 2019, the Missouri State Troopers Association hosted a highway dedication in Lathrop, MO, the hometown of Trooper Fred L. Walker. Tpr. Walker was shot in St. Genevieve County during the arrest of two car thieves on December 3, 1941, and died later that day. He was the second officer killed in the line of duty for the Missouri State Highway Patrol. HB812/HB832 designated the section of Center Street (Missouri Highway 33) in Lathrop between North and South streets in Clinton County as the "Trooper Fred L. Walker Memorial Highway."

The event was held at the First Christian Church in Lathrop, which was also the Walker family's church while they lived there. One large highway sign was set up in the church sanctuary and was unveiled during the

dedication. The event was emceed by MOSTA President/Troop F Sergeant Matt Broniec with attendees hearing remarks from the representatives of the Patrol, DPS, elected officials, and the family. Tpr. Walker had no children of his own, but several of his nieces and nephews were able to attend the dedication.

The dedication event itself was a culmination of work by MOSTA, the Patrol, and the Department of Public Safety to pass legislation that established the memorial highway. Several years ago, MOSTA began a process of sponsoring highway signs to ensure all fallen

troopers had a dedicated memorial highway. House Bills 812 and 832 were combined during the 2019 legislative process creating the "Trooper John N. Greim Memorial Highway" and the "Trooper Fred L. Walker Memorial Highway." MOSTA is currently working with the family of Tpr. Greim to plan a memorial highway dedication in Johnson County in April 2020.



*Members of Tpr. Fred Walker surround the sign honoring his sacrifice. Pictured are: (left side) Mr. Josh Walker, Ms. Amy Hearst, Mr. Delbert Mayfield, Ms. Diane Walker, Ms. Joyce Mayfield, Mr. Wayne Walker, and Ms. Trudy Stompoly; (right side) Ms. Suzanne Bunnell, Ms. Barbara Duffey, Mr. Ken Keller, Ms. Carol Keller, and Ms. Jackie Miller.*

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# *Congratulations On Your Retirement!*

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**Kerry L. Bax**  
Designated Prin. Asst.  
Q/ASB

*Retired October 1, 2019.  
30 years, three months  
of dedicated service.*



**Tammy R. Byrd**  
CJIS Program Sprv.  
Q/CJISD

*Retired October 1, 2019.  
30 years, four months  
of dedicated service.*



**John E.  
Christensen**  
Corporal  
Q/GD

*Retired October 1, 2019.  
26 years, two months  
of dedicated service.*



**Fred J. Stoffregen**  
Corporal  
Troop E

*Retired October 1, 2019.  
29 years, nine months  
of dedicated service.*



**Bryan G. Arnold**  
Sergeant  
Q/DDCC

*Retired November 1, 2019.  
25 years of dedicated service.*



# Gov. Parson Recognizes Troopers Neeley, Muck

## Public Safety Medals Awarded To 18 First Responders, Six Civilians

A special ceremony took place October 7, 2019, in the Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy gymnasium. Governor Mike Parson awarded Missouri Public Safety Medals to 24 of our state's heroes for their brave actions in 2018. The awards are the state's highest honor and presented to individuals or teams. Two Patrol employees accepted awards at the ceremony.

Trooper Matthew W. Neely, Troop H, accepted a Medal of Valor. He was honored for his actions on March 19, 2018. Troop H communications broadcast that a man and woman suspected in a residential theft in Ridgeway, MO, had just fled in a silver Ford Taurus. Tpr. Neely spotted the vehicle southbound on Interstate 35. Before he could attempt to stop the vehicle, the driver exited the interstate and crashed into a utility pole. Tpr. Neely placed the passenger under arrest and pursued the driver on foot across an open field. The man turned and fired multiple shots at Tpr. Neely. He took cover, apprised Troop H communications, then advanced on the gunman while commanding him to drop his weapon. The gunman attempted to re-engage Tpr. Neely. The trooper fired several shots, striking the gunman twice and ending the threat. Tpr. Neely and another trooper provided first aid until medical assistance arrived. The gunman survived.

Trooper Bradley R. Muck, Troop H, accepted a Governor's Medal as part of a group who worked together to end a prison riot at the Crossroads Correctional Center on May 12, 2018. Corrections employees took action and evacuated 131 surrendering offenders and contained the remaining 78. Tpr. Muck reported to the incident command center as offenders made contact. Tpr. Muck established rapport over the phone with two unidentified offenders. Working through the night, he listened and gathered information he relayed to the warden. Remaining calm and in control throughout the disturbance, Tpr. Muck continued to establish trust and



*Tpr. Matthew Neely, Troop H, accepted a Medal of Valor from Gov. Mike Parson.*



*Gov. Mike Parson awarded a Governor's Medal to Tpr. Brad Muck, Troop H.*

ultimately persuaded the offenders to return to a dining hall and peacefully end the disturbance.

"We are honored to have such good role models in Missouri," said DPS Director Sandra K. Karsten. "We are a better state because of their willingness to step forward and into harm's way. On behalf of the Department of Public Safety, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to each of you."

**Editor's note:** Visit <https://governor.mo.gov/press-releases/archive/governor-parson-awards-missouri-public-safety-medals-first-responders-and-to-read-about-the-remaining-awards>.

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# 9th CVO Class 'Sets The Standard'

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb, Q/PIED

The hum of happy conversation and anticipation filled the second-floor conference room of the Waggoner Building on October 25, 2019. After 17 weeks of studying and practical exercises, it was graduation day for the 9th Commercial Vehicle Officer Class!

Mr. Tom Crawford, president and CEO of the Missouri Trucking Association, was a special guest at the graduation. He said truck drivers appreciate the professionalism and the way Missouri's commercial vehicle officers go about their duties.

"A lot of times, they [truck drivers] will be coming to Missouri having had a bad experience," said Mr. Crawford. "Time and time again, their contact in Missouri makes a difference in how they treat your profession nationwide. I do appreciate you and thank you for what you're about to do, the service you're about to give the state. We value the open, honest communications we have with the Patrol and with the division. Good luck."

Lieutenant Colonel Malik A. Henderson, Q/ASO, and Captain Kevin C. Kelley, Q/CVED, also addressed the class.

"Congratulations on behalf of the entire command staff," said Lt. Col. Henderson. He then expressed his appreciation to the Honorable Carol Ann England, 13th Judicial Circuit of Missouri, for being present to administer the class' Oath of Office, and Mr. Crawford for addressing the gathering. "I also want to thank and acknowledge the families of our CVO graduates, who didn't have normal contact for 17 weeks. They needed that support. Without that family support, this wouldn't have happened."

CVO Sprv. I Shelley L. Hardester, the class vice commander, provided the invocation and CVO II Jared L. Whited, class commander, provided the benediction.

Throughout the 17 weeks of training, the officers accumulated points toward graduation in the categories of



*Congratulations to the 9th CVO Class!! Pictured are (front row, l to r) CVO II Feryl Myers, Troop A, Lt. Col. Malik Henderson, Q/ASO, Senior Chief Jeff Sims, Q/CVED, and Capt. Kevin Kelley, Q/CVED, CVO II Miguel Nunnery, Troop E; (middle row, l to r) CVO II Jared Whited, Troop C, CVO II Lisa Springston, Troop D, CVO II Jason Vandiver, Troop E, CVO Sprv. I Shelley Hardester, Troop C, CVO I Joshua Eickhoff, Troop A, CVO II Ryne Brannum, Troop E, CVO Sprv. I Jason Belcher, Troop E, CVO II Jeremy Rhoades, Troop H; (last row, l to r) CVO II Benjamin Towe, Troop E, CVO Sprv. II Allen Cook, Troop C, CVO II William Rule, Troop C, CVO II Gary Umphry, Troop H, CVO II Donald Hartmann, Troop C, CVO II Michael Howe, Troop D, and CVO II Randall Lyon, Troop D.*

firearms and academics. The person with the highest number of points in each category earned the respective award. CVO I Joshua Eickhoff earned the firearms award. CVO II Benjamin L. Towe earned the academics award.

"Congratulations on making the transition from CVI to CVO," said Capt. Kelley. "Law enforcement is a service profession. Each of you have a responsibility to protect people who live and travel through our state. Do not get complacent. Practice your law enforcement skills; they are perishable. Do not sacrifice your integrity. The public has placed their trust in you, and we cannot do our job without that trust. Show appreciation to your family and go home after your shift safely. Your performance with your practical application has set the standard for the next class. Your classroom performance has been outstanding. Thank you for a job well done."

CVO II Jared L. Whited, Troop C, said the training was the best he'd had since joining the Patrol. "We got

more in-depth knowledge of the law enforcement aspect of what we do." He said it was nice to meet employees from around the state and he enjoyed how the group came together. "It was a chance we don't have often. We're usually stuck in our troop. Building the camaraderie and friendship with these guys was good. It was nice to see everyone as a class succeed together."

"I learned a lot from Sergeant Aaron K. Griffin, Q/TND. He taught us a lot about mindset related to our safety and weapons," said CVO Sprv. I Shelley Hardester, Troop C. "That was new to me, and I enjoyed it." She said she found the domestic violence class with Sgt. Trois Maloney, Q/TND, especially good. "It was good training," she said. "The Emergency Vehicle Operations Course was a blast. I learned a lot and enjoyed the time here. We had a good group of people and a lot of good instructors."

# PLWPM Earns High Marks

## New Executive Development Course Offered

*By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb, Q/PIED*

For several years now, the Patrol has presented leadership training for the various levels of supervision/management. The fourth and fifth sessions of the current course, Police Leadership — The West Point Model, will be offered in 2020.

However, in fall 2019, a new leadership course appeared on the scene. For the first time, a PLWPM Executive Development Course took place at General Headquarters. Colonel Eric T. Olson, superintendent, felt the command officers would benefit from this two-week, executive level leadership training. He also contacted the Patrol's counterparts in Kansas and Iowa and invited those agencies' leadership to attend. Four Kansas and four Iowa state law enforcement officers joined 20 staff members from the MSHP to form the class of 28 participants. The course took place one week in September and one week in October, with graduation on October 18, 2019. The course was intense and covered a lot of material, with open discussions being key to the group's growth and understanding. Congratulations to each of them!

### The reviews were excellent:

"We think this has been a great experience," said Lt. Col. Jason B. De Vore, Kansas Highway Patrol. "We're very appreciative of your colonel offering the invitation to the KHP. We have been discussing the need of incorporating leadership training into the agency, and we think this course, this model, fits our agency. The fact the colonel reached out to Kansas, we're hoping to create some opportunities for us to collaborate in the future. We have always been good partners. This is another avenue for us to expand our partnership. The course instructor and his cadre from within the MSHP has been fantastic."

"This has been a great experience to enhance our leadership capabilities across the department," said Colonel Nathan A. Fulk, Iowa State Patrol. "We value and appreciate our relationship with the MSHP and the KHP. We would especially like to thank Col. Eric Olson for the hospitality, support, and vision for the future. We look forward to continuing with our partnership to enhance public safety across the country."

"I appreciate the staff level component taking the time out of their schedule to take the course," said Sergeant Bill W. Lowe, Troop A and PLWPM instructor, "and engaging in conversations about leadership."

"PLWM is an excellent course to learn supervisory theories and techniques," said Captain David K. Striegel, Q/AD. "Every employee has their own unique skills and methods of approaching their work, as well as their own value to the agency. This course provides excellent insight regarding how people think and how different types of people are motivated. PLWM provides theories and techniques about how to work with people to achieve the goals of the individual employee, while also meeting the goals of the component and the agency. Throughout the course, I learned about things I had been doing right, but I also learned about things I can improve on and things I had been doing wrong. PLWM can assist any person become a better leader. I highly recommend it to all supervisors, managers, and executive level personnel in the Patrol."

# Death

## Charles K. "Kenny" Walker



Charles K. "Kenny" Walker, 87, of Jefferson City, MO, died September 13, 2019, at the Osage Beach Rehabilitation Center in Osage Beach, MO. He was born in Chamois, MO. Kenny served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was honorably discharged as a corporal. He joined the Missouri State Highway Patrol as an automotive technician in 1967, and retired in 1995, after 29 years of dedicated service. Kenny's wife of 51 years, Iva, preceded him in death. He is survived by three

*Continued on the next page.*

# Thank You

Thank you to our Patrol family for the support shown to us upon the death of our father/father-in-law, Glendale Hisaw. We sincerely appreciate every prayer, word of encouragement, kind gesture, sympathy card, and memorial gift we received. Matthew 5:4 says, "Blessed are they that mourn, for they will be comforted." Thank you for being a blessing to us in our time of mourning.

*Lab. Tech. III Chuck E. & MVI  
Analyst Brenda J. Davis, Q/CLD &  
Q/DVSD*

# Deaths

children, one sister, two grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions are suggested to First Assembly of God Children's Ministry, 1900 Route C, Jefferson City, MO 65109. To learn more about Kenny, visit the Freeman Mortuary website at <https://memorials.freemanmortuary.com/Walker-Kenny/3969018/>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Walker family.

## William E. "Bill" Cox



William E. "Bill" Cox, 65, of Lee's Summit, MO, died October 8, 2019.

He was born in St. Charles, MO. Bill joined the Missouri State Water Patrol in 1979, as a member of its 17th Recruit Class. He was promoted through the ranks to captain, and assigned as the supervisor for the northwest region in 1986. Bill became a captain with the Missouri State Highway Patrol on January 1, 2011, after the two agencies merged. He retired August 1, 2011. Bill is survived by his wife, Lorene, three daughters, two grandchildren, one sister, several nieces and nephews, and other relatives. Memorials may be made to The ALS Association or Ducks Unlimited in care of Carter-Ricks Funeral Home, 107 S. 5th Street; Elsberry, MO 63343. For more information about Bill's life, visit the Carter-Ricks Funeral home website <https://carterricksfuneralhome.com/tribute/details/1592/William-Cox/obituary.html#tribute-start>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Cox family.

## Vernon Hopkins Jr.



Vernon Hopkins Jr. died October 18, 2019, at the Lutheran Home in Cape Girardeau, MO. He was born in Bloomfield, MO. He graduated from Gray Ridge High School in 1950, and enlisted in the United States Navy in November 1951. He served as a sonarman aboard the USS Bradford during the Korean War and was honorably discharged March 1955. Vernon was accepted into the Missouri State Highway Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy as a member of the 15th Recruit Class on September 18, 1955. He was assigned to Troop E where he was promoted to sergeant in 1969, and retired as lieutenant in 1987. He is survived by his wife, Mary Matthews Hopkins, four daughters, two stepsons, three grandchildren, three step-grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and numerous extended family members. Memorials may be sent to The MASTERS. For more information, visit the Liley Funeral Home website <https://lileyfuneralhomes.com/book-of-memorials/3994928/Hopkins-Vernon-/index.php>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Hopkins family.

## Sympathy

*Our deepest sympathy goes to the following personnel who have lost a member of their family:*

Ret. Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. II Don R. Sheehy Jr. - father  
CVO Sprv. I Larry J. Sheehy (E) - father  
Ret. Sgt. Rick L. Lisenbe - wife  
Ret. Clerk IV Carla J. Flickinger - mother  
Comm. Oper. III Zachary M. Dykes - grandmother  
Clerk Typist II Brandi C. Boyle (A) - grandfather  
Lab. Tech. III Chuck E. Davis (Q/CLD) - stepfather  
Sgt. G. Frank Riley (B) - father-in-law  
Tpr. Tim W. Murrell (A) - mother

Tpr. Dave R. Nelson (Q/GD) - father  
Ret. Sgt. Jon S. Daniel - mother  
Ret. Sgt. Larry G. Liebig - son  
Ret. MVI Sprv. Richard R. Gehner - wife  
Ret. Capt. Mark E. Richerson - mother  
Ret. Cpl. Barry G. Matthews - step-father  
Lt. Scott M. Lance (F) - father-in-law  
Ret. Cpl. D. Scott Rice - mother  
Tpr. Adam S. Rice (D) - grandmother  
MVI II Jessica K. Rice (D) - grandmother-in-law

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## Trooper Returns Roo To ‘Hundred Acre Wood’

*By Tpr. Huntley Hoemann, Troop C*

At 1:01 a.m. on October 22, 2019, I was advised by Troop C communications to respond to the area of Missouri Route PP and Pickles Ford Road. It was reported that there was a kangaroo hopping down the road. My first thought was that it was an intoxicated person seeing something that really was not there ... perhaps it was a baby deer. I figured I wouldn't find anything.

I responded to the area, and at 1:18 a.m., I located “Roo” where he was reported to be. I have to admit that I chuckled when I saw the little guy. I later learned that the kangaroo was actually a wallaby named Lackey. Watching over Lackey until I arrived on the scene were three teens, who had spotted the little guy hopping northbound on Route PP and notified law enforcement. After a short foot chase and with the teens' assistance, Lackey was corralled. He broke through the line once and went hopping down Route PP, but we gave chase and corralled him again. This

*Lackey the wallaby got a ride home from Tpr. Huntley Hoemann, Troop C, after he was seen hopping along Missouri Route PP in the wee hours of the morning.*



time, I threw my raincoat over the top of him and scooped him up.

The area vet clinics would not take him and the St. Louis Zoo indicated they could not take him, either. We were in the process of trying to locate a cage when Troop C communications personnel was able to find a goat and rabbit ranch on Pickles Ford Road, a short distance away. I was relieved when it turned out to be Lackey's home.

When I contacted the owner, Nisha Chand, she said Lackey was hers and is her emotional support animal. Chand was unaware that Lackey had escaped. Apparently, when she was asleep, Lackey opened his cage and escaped through the fence. The owner and the little guy appeared to be relieved to be back together.